FOCUS ON FAMINE

‘These aren’t unsolvable problems. People are healthy again after they’re assisted.’

Canadian Katherine Clark on the situation in Nigeria, metroNEWS

Ottawa metro

Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, MARCH 31-APRIL 2, 2017 | High 2°C/Low 0°C Snow

MOVIE REVIEW

Johansson is the Ghost that saves this Shell of a screenplay

metroLIFE

SETTING THE STAGE

Juno fever ready to take over the town

metroNEWS

Workers prepare for the 2017 Juno Awards at the Canadian Tire Centre in Ottawa on Tuesday.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

ENGINEERING CHANGE

How to bridge the tech-talent gap? Train girls

metroNEWS

‘ALLEVIATE THAT FEAR’

Councillors debate making Ottawa a sanctuary city — at length

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Ford hiring 400 BlackBerry workers, investing in Ottawa research centre metroNEWS

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Your essential daily news

Twitter leak leads to Crayola announcing, a day early, that it's retiring the colour dandelion yellow.

5 THINGS TO DO IN THE CITY THIS WEEKEND

Have some spare moments over the next few days and need something to pass the time? Whether you have a love for nature or music, a little sweet tooth for all things maple, or if you just enjoy checking out the latest video games, here's a look at what's going on in Ottawa all weekend long. **HALEY RITCHIE** METRO

1 Juno Fest (all weekend)

The Juno Awards are in Ottawa this weekend, meaning all kinds of opportunities to party, spot celebrities and hear great music. Over a hundred musicians will be playing at 15 venues around Ottawa as part of Juno Fest, and a number of artists will be heading to the Rideau Centre on Saturday for autographs. A full schedule of events is available at junoawards.ca.

2 Capital Gaming Expo (all weekend)

The revamped Capital Gaming Expo will kick off on Saturday, bringing together both players and the video-game professionals for workshops, art and industry talks. The two-day conference takes place at the Nepean Sportsplex. Tickets for each day are $95 for the conference and $5 for the expo, which includes games and tech on display.

3 Ikebana (all weekend)

A sure sign of spring, enjoy the Japanese traditional of fresh floral arrangements this weekend at the Nature Museum. There will be 50 displays of various sizes and shapes. The fresh arrangements only last a few days, and will be on display from March 30 to April 2 during museum hours.

4 Sugar Festival (all weekend)

Weather reporters are projecting (what we hope is) the last big snowfall of the season. Might as well make the most of it and head to the Vanier Museopark's annual sugar bush festival or any of the many local maple syrup producers around Ottawa. On Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Museopark will be offering pancake breakfasts, live music, farm animals and horse carriage rides.

5 Outdoor + Adventure Travel Show (all weekend)

The season for winter sports is nearly over, and the Outdoor + Adventure Travel Show promises to prepare you for the warm weather. Vendors specializing in water sports, camping, hiking, fish, racing and wildlife photography will be presenting at the EY Centre on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are $8 online and $12 at the door.

FEDERAL BUDGET

Uber urges pushback over tax

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Rideshare firm Uber is pushing back against changes in the federal budget that will require it to charge customers GST.

The government introduced the change in the budget clarifying a rule that currently requires taxi operators to charge GST for fares. The changes set to come into place on July 1 this year will mean the company has to charge the tax, as taxi drivers already do.

On the day he introduced his budget, finance minister Bill Morneau said it was an issue of fairness.

"With respect to Uber, what we've done is say that there's a level playing field. If you're in an Uber or if you're in a taxi, you pay GST. That's consistent with what Canadians expect," he told reporters during a press conference.

Uber is challenging that change with an email to its users encouraging people to get in touch with their MPs and encourage the government to change tack on the issue.

"Given the broad implications of this announced policy, we felt we had the responsibility to inform Canadians who rely on ridesharing as riders and drivers," wrote Susie Heath, a spokesperson for the company.

On a company website about the change they argue most small businesses owners who make less than $30,000 a year don't charge GST and this change unfairly penalizes Uber drivers.

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Sanctuary debate hits city hall

IMMIGRATION

Frontline workers shared harrowing stories

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

City councillors spent eight hours on Thursday debating what it would mean — and what it would cost — to designate Ottawa a "sanctuary city."

In sanctuary cities, social-service providers are dissuaded from asking people about their immigration status. In practice, this can mean that frontline workers provide services without first asking for identification.

The idea of formalizing such a policy in Ottawa was proposed by Coun. Catherine McKenney, who didn't bring forward an actual motion or dollar amount on Thursday, but offered an open-ended invitation for public input.

Faith leaders and frontline workers shared with councillors harrowing stories of undocumented immigrants facing abuse and uncertainty.

Aditya Rao (left) and Karen Cocq of the Ottawa Sanctuary City Network listen to delegates at the city's Protective Services Committee meeting. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Delegates suggested that some fear deportation when signing up for public pools, flu vaccines or library cards.

"It needs to be made very explicit that people can access city services without fear of an issue based on their precarious immigration status," said Leslie Emory of Refugee 613.

Those councillors skeptical about the idea questioned how rational such fears are and how much power the city has to deal with them.

If a sanctuary city policy were adopted by council, it would apply only to city services. Provincial agencies, such as hospitals, would be unaffected.

Staff also noted that the city does not operate food banks or require immigration status for flu clinics.

One idea repeated during a number of presentations was training staff so that they know when and when not to ask a person for identification. Also suggested was a full review of the city's current policies and better communication with immigrant communities to ease fears.

In final remarks, city councillors remained divided on the idea but thanked delegates for the discussion.

> **"I see no details or substantiated facts in the report before us today to change my view.**
> Coun. Michael Qaqish

Coun. Michael Qaqish, the city's special liaison for refugees, said he wouldn't support the designation.

"From what I've heard from staff, I don't feel that a motion is required for people to feel safe and included in Ottawa," he said. "I see no details or substantiated facts in the report before us today to change my view."

McKenney said the city needs a well-promoted policy that the city won't ask for immigration status, and staff need to be trained on the policy.

"I have to believe the stories we heard today," she said. "When we have agencies that come to us and say 'Look, people are afraid to access your services' it may not be based on fact or experience, but we need to find a way to alleviate that fear."

ASBESTOS

Fire victims worry possessions may be toxic

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Residents of a townhouse complex gutted by fire earlier this month are now worried about the asbestos left behind in the heavily damaged building. A fire on a balcony outside one unit on Northview Road quickly grew earlier this month tearing through multiple homes in what ultimately became a four-alarm fire.

Melinda Munoz, her husband and three kids were living in one of the units, but haven't been back since the fire because the damage to their former home is so extensive. She said when contractors working for Minto first offered to retrieve items she was relieved.

"You have nothing but the clothes on your back," she said. "There is a degree of trust when they say they're going to do this for you. There is some relief."

When she looked at the items they brought out, however, she worried they had been exposed to something toxic.

"I have three children — a two-year-old, a five-year-old and a 14-year old — and we are worried about cancer," she said. She said she's left the items on her balcony, wrapped in a plastic bag, since she first brought them home.

Robin Garvey, the company's vice-president of property operations, said they're confident that everything that came out of the building is safe. She said DFB associates, the restoration company the insurance firm brought in, know what they're doing.

"The items retrieved and returned to you have been treated by DFB and abide by safety standards and are therefore safe to use," she said.

LABOUR

Sides exchange offers while drivers strike

La Société de transport de l'Outaouais (STO) and its union were continuing to negotiate during rotating-strike action on Thursday, hoping to bring their long labour dispute to an end.

The two sides exchanged offers on Thursday as drivers pulled off the road for the third time in as many weeks. Prior to the rotating strikes, the union had engaged in a work-to-rule campaign. The STO's offer, which they presented as their final proposal, would send some issues to arbitration, while including in a deal all the issues the two sides have already agreed to. The union had offered a counter proposal, and the two sides were still discussing the issue when Metro went to press Thursday. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

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Making tech time fun for girls

EMPLOYMENT

Introducing possibilities with hands-on learning event

David Sali
Ottawa Business Journal

Marie Fiala believes she has a solution to Ottawa's chronic shortage of tech talent that doesn't require looking beyond Canada's borders for qualified engineers and programmers.

A marketing expert at tech giant Ciena's west-end campus, Fiala says Canada has an abundant and often overlooked resource that could go a long way toward eliminating the problem: a female population that historically has been drastically underrepresented in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

"Why not tap into half the Canadian population and educate them?" she says. "We've got that talent right here."

Young female students at a STEM training session by tech giant Ciena. CONTRIBUTED

She knows the statistics on women in STEM fields, and they're not encouraging. In 2014, women accounted for just a quarter of the total number of students enrolled in Canadian post-secondary mathematics, computer and information sciences programs. In engineering and related technologies, the figure was even lower – a mere 19 per cent of university and college students in those fields were women.

> **We've got the talent right here.**
> Marie Fiala

A year ago, a group of Ciena's Ottawa workers came up with an idea to encourage more females to enter fields of study related to technology that have traditionally been dominated by men.

They organized an event last June called "Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day," inviting about two dozen girls in Grades 6, 7 and 8 at various local middle schools – many of them daughters of Ciena employees – to tour the company's Carling Avenue labs and gain hands-on experience at tasks such as building electronic circuits.

"We wanted to reach out to girls when they're still young and get them inspired and interested in STEM-related subjects," says organizer May Lee, a director of project management at Ciena who started at the company as a software developer. "That's an age group where their interests start to solidify. We also wanted to reach out to them before they started selecting courses in high school."

The company has since hosted two more similar events, partnering with D.A. Moodie Intermediate School for a day-long session in mid-November that attracted more than 30 girls from that school and others and another in February that drew more than two dozen students, mostly from All Saints Catholic High School in Kanata.

Organizers say the girls' reaction is almost universally positive. In surveys after the events, more than 90 per cent of participants said the sessions increased their interest in studying STEM fields.

"When we bring the (circuit) kits up, a lot of the girls will say, 'My brother has this kit,'" says Michelle Gardiner, an R&D hardware program manager at Ciena and another one of the organizers.

"But it's something that they've never thought (about), or even their parents have never thought to have them play with it. And as soon as they get their hands on it, they are so excited about it. We need to do more to encourage girls, inspire them to look at engineering or STEM-related topics."

Lee, who has a bachelor of commerce degree from Concordia University with a major in business technology management, says girls are subtly encouraged to conform to gender stereotypes that steer them away from science-related fields.

"The toys we buy for girls are dolls," she says. "And yet for boys, we buy them construction kits."

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AUTO SECTOR

Ford hires employees from BlackBerry for car research

Ford Motor Co. will hire approximately 400 employees from embattled communications company BlackBerry Ltd. as part of sizable new investments in Canada that include a connected-vehicle research centre in Ottawa, the smartphone maker said yesterday.

Ford said the Ottawa research centre is part of a $500 million Canadian (US $376 million) investment. The company also plans to increase sustainability and fuel economy research at its Windsor and Oakville operations. The company said it will hire approximately 300 engineers in Canada and 100 additional hardware and software engineers in the U.S. to support the work of the Canadian team.

$1 billion

The three largest North American automakers committed to pumping more than $1 billion combined into their Canadian operations last year.

The new Ottawa Research and Engineering Centre in Canada will focus on research and development across infotainment, in-vehicle modems, gateway modules, driver-assist features and autonomous vehicles, said Ford. Additional facilities will be located in Waterloo and Oakville, Ontario, as well as Cary, North Carolina and Sunrise, Florida. It will be Ford's first centre focused on connectivity research and advanced technology in Canada.

Automakers have been racing to secure engineering talent to ensure they don't get left behind as vehicles become increasingly automated. Ford has said it expected to have a self-driving taxi available by 2021. Last month, the carmaker invested US $1 billion over five years in Argo AI.

BlackBerry spokeswoman Sarah McKinney confirmed the transfer of 400 employees, saying it was part of the "pivot from hardware to software".

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CITY

Ottawa loses Canada Games bid

Ottawa will not host the Canada Games in 2021.

The city was competing for the event with Sudbury, the Niagara region, Kitchener-Waterloo, Guelph and Cambridge. It was announced yesterday in Toronto that the games will take place in Niagara.

"I'm disappointed," said David Gourlay, president of the Ottawa Champions and a leader in the city's bid for the games. "I felt our city and our community had a really good shot at this."

Gourlay said as well as welcoming tourists, he was hoping the games would be a way to fund improvements to sports facilities in the city.

Gourlay said the committee didn't provide details on why Ottawa was not chosen, but that information will likely follow next week.

The Canada Games are held every two years.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

A woman protests in Halifax earlier this month over Judge Gregory Lenehan's decision to find a Halifax taxi driver not guilty in a high-profile sexual assault case. JEFF HARPER/METRO HALIFAX

Walking 'a tricky line'

SEX ASSAULT

Legal expert weighs in on defence tactics vs. complainant

Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

How far defence lawyers can go in questioning the credibility of a sexual assault complainant, and how much they were drinking, is a "tricky line," one Halifax expert says.

Wayne MacKay, Dalhousie University law professor, said he felt "disappointment" to see another taxi sexual assault case in court this week involving Saher Hamdan, less than a month after cabbie Bassam Al-Rawi was acquitted by Judge Gregory Lenehan in a controversial decision hinging on consent that drew national attention and is being appealed.

"That is troubling, because one would hope that taxis are safe places to be," MacKay said Thursday.

In Hamdan's case, the 19-year-old passenger testified in court Wednesday the driver rubbed her leg a few times without her consent, reached between her legs to pull a latch and slide back her seat, and he asked if he could kiss her the evening of July 15, 2016.

Defence lawyer John O'Neill extensively cross-examined the complainant on where her feet were in the cab at different points. Many readers commented on social media that they felt it was also irrelevant O'Neill questioned the woman at length about what she was drinking at the bar, and how much, before getting in the cab.

Even though the public conversation is shifting away from what a woman was drinking or wearing when an alleged assault occurs, with many pointing out the emphasis should be on the accused's actions, MacKay said the defence has a duty to represent their clients to the "fullest extent of the law" while remaining ethical and respectful.

NEWFOUNDLAND

'Praying' polar bear stuns photographer

Jessica Andrews was scanning through dozens of photos she took of a polar bear roaming around her backyard when she came across one that stopped her in her tracks. The large animal was squatting beneath a white cross, its paws together and raised skyward as it looked up in a seemingly reverential pose.

"When I started to go through to edit them, oh my God, I was like, 'Holy crap, he's praying!'" the 22-year-old said from her home in Wesleyville, a shoreline community on Newfoundland's central coast. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jessica Andrews says she was "beyond amazed" when she saw her photo. JESSICA ANDREWS/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

WORKPLACE

Millennial workers value mental health help

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

Millennials are looking for mental health support at work, according to a new survey from Centennial College and non-profit CivicAction, and more likely than other generations to use these kinds of services.

An Angus Reid survey of 1,521 adults found almost two-thirds of millennials expect to access mental health services at work.

Lindsay Balbirnie, a Centennial College public relations student who worked on the project, said they commissioned the survey to shed light on the mental health issues in the workplace.

"What we wanted to do was kind of draw the attention to the employers who would be hiring," she said.

Sarah Harris, communications director for CivicAction, said many millennials are in "a big transition point" at the beginning of their careers, which can be tough.

"You look at youth unemployment rates and things like that, it's definitely not easy for young people to find their footing in life," she said.

As well, many younger people are more willing to talk honestly about mental health challenges than their parents and grandparents, as attitudes around mental illness start to change.

Harris said many employers want to offer mental health services but don't know where to start.

CivicAction offers a free, quick tool to help employers find what resources are best for their workforce called MindsMatter.

"There's actually so many different services and resources out there, but it's almost like an ocean," Harris said.

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FOCUS ON FAMINE

DAY 5: Nigeria

Women and young girls wash clothes while others collect water in one of the hosting communities for internally displaced people in Maiduguri, Nigeria. Women and children have suffered most from the Boko Haram insurgency. Many of them are suffering from food insecurity and a lack of clean water and medical care. GETTY IMAGES

Situation not 'unsolvable'

United Nations warns that more than five million people in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe are facing a food emergency

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

The trip was meant to instill some hope in an otherwise dire environment. Instead, it left Nene Akinten with serious concerns about the future.

"It was a very bad situation, but I could tell it was going to get worse," said Akinten, an Oakville resident originally from Nigeria.

Last year she teamed up with members of Relief International Nigeria Women in Diaspora to collect donations for the country's internally displaced people. With her three kids and a few other members, they visited four camps and spent days tutoring children and interacting with people who had fled both the Boko Haram violence and starvation.

It was a "gloomy" experience, said Akinten. Malnutrition was rampant. Subsisting on donations, no one could afford three meals a day. She heard people were already dying from lack of food in the northeastern states.

A year later, her fears have been confirmed. The United Nations has warned over five million people in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe face a food emergency, and famine could break out by June. Insecurity is a big part of the problem, as close to two million residents have been forced out of their households and can no longer work on farming.

Nene Akinten, centre in green, visited four camps last year as part of an effort to help those affected by food shortages in northeast Nigeria. CONTRIBUTED

"If you don't die from hunger then these Boko Haram people will kill you. It's crazy," said Mustapha Daodu, an Edmonton-based reggae musician. Some of his family members still live in Borno, and he regularly sends money to support them.

"I'm really worried this whole famine will spread to the rest of the country very soon," he added.

Katherine Clark, who recently returned from a four-month assignment with Doctors Without Borders (MSF) in northeast Nigeria, said the conflict has damaged infrastructure and made it difficult for people to access humanitarian aid.

"These aren't unsolvable problems," she said of the malnutrition and poor hygiene in camps. "People are healthy again after they're assisted. I don't think anybody should really go hungry in the world today."

BY THE NUMBERS | FAMINE IN NIGERIA

$99.9 million / **$1.1 billion**
Total funds raised so far / Funds required to avert a famine

5.1 million
The number of people who are currently food insecure in northeastern Nigeria

50,000
Number of people predicted to be suffering from famine by June

SOURCE: UN OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

ABOUT THIS SERIES

Metro is chronicling the story through the lens of immigrants from the affected countries, with a focus on how people can get involved.

Monday Vicky Mochama on how Canada can step up its interventions.

Tuesday Focus on Somalia, and how this could be worse than 2011.

Wednesday Yemen, and the role of war in the ongoing famine.

Thursday The situation in South Sudan, the world's youngest country.

Friday Nigeria, with views from diaspora members and an expat.

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HOW YOU CAN HELP

Nigerian-Canadians across the country are leading efforts to collect funds.

- **Relief International Nigeria Women in Diaspora** continues to co-ordinate relief efforts for those affected by the food shortage. Contact akintanfamily@gmail.com for more information.
- **MSF-Canada** provides medical and humanitarian assistance to people in the four states and other parts of northern Nigeria. More at msf.ca
- **Action Against Hunger** runs emergency food and nutrition programs in northern Nigeria and other countries facing famine. More at actioncontrelafaim.ca
- **World Vision** is the biggest implementing partner of the World Food Program in East Africa. Private donations can be made at worldvision.ca

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GREG PETZOLD

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Global digest

GERMANY

Far-right party urges supporters to infiltrate police

A far-right party is urging its supporters to join the police force in the German state of Saxony to obtain information about migrants accused of committing crimes.

In January, Germany's highest court ruled the National Democratic Party's goals run counter to the country's constitution.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SYRIA

Number of Syrian refugees tops 5 million mark

The number of Syrians who have fled their country has surpassed the 5-million mark, the UNHCR said Thursday. A year ago at Geneva conference participating countries pledged to "resettle and facilitate pathways for 500,000 refugees" from Syria, but only half of those places have been allocated so far. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED STATES

Judge extends temporary order blocking travel ban

A U.S. judge in Hawaii is keeping U.S. President Donald Trump's travel ban on hold while the state's lawsuit works its way through the courts.

U.S. District Judge Derrick Watson issued a 24-page order Wednesday extending his temporary order blocking the ban.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOMALIA

Pentagon gets OK for more aggressive airstrikes

U.S. President Donald Trump has granted the U.S. military more authority to go after al-Qaida linked militants in Somalia, approving a Pentagon request to allow more aggressive airstrikes, officials said Thursday. Portions of southern Somalia, excluding Mogadishu, will be considered a warzone, officials said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. President Donald Trump reacts with Secretary Tom Price and Vice President Mike Pence after Republicans abruptly pulled their health-care bill from the House floor on March 24, in Washington, DC. GETTY IMAGES

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Republican name game

Those on the right seem to think Trump is doing just fine

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
From the U.S.

It was revealed, as U.S. President Donald Trump's kindergarten collage of a health-care bill collapsed last week under the warm reception of a toenail-clippings sandwich, that many Trump voters have an unusual malady.

They cannot comprehend that one bill could have two names. Many, upon hearing that the Republicans were going to repeal the Affordable Care Act and strip them of access to expanded Medicaid last week, balked. You see, they thought it was Obamacare that was supposed to get the heave-ho. They didn't realize they were the same thing.

Let's give a round of applause for Fox News. The natural home of the Republican party and anti-Obamacare sentiment.

The network synonymous with sexual assault lawsuits might be viewed among some Canadians as an unfortunate quirk of the U.S. media landscape, a bit of discolouring on an otherwise perfectly serviceable dress.

It is not.

Or rather, Fox News is the acid spew that threatens to ruin the entire thing: It is the most-watched news network in the U.S., and growing. The Los Angeles Times reported in late December that year-end numbers showed that "Fox News Channel was the most-watched network in all of cable with an average of 2.43 million viewers in prime time, up 36 per cent over last year."

Certainly, there's a distinction to be made between the thousands of local news reporters and programs, and the national news reporting teams, and people like Bill O'Reilly, the grubby-faced Fox News star.

But it is O'Reilly's brand of ... loyalty, to use Trump's favourite word, that currently characterizes the American right. This week, the president faced the kind of approval ratings you'd reserve mostly for people who don't pick up after their dogs: 36 per cent by March 24, according to Gallup.

Among Republicans, however, his support is soaring around the 90 per cent mark, down only 5 per cent week-to-week after the health-care bill flopped.

To recap: The president with an historically low overall approval rating is doing just fine, according to his base, according to polls. Certainly, we know enough at this point not to take polling at the same face value that you reserve for your tarot cards, but the sentiment — that some Trump voters believe he's doing a good job, and everything wrong in his first few months is someone else's fault — has been borne out by reporting. When radio-God-among-us Tom Ashbrook took his call-in show to Miami in mid-March, an older man who voted for Trump put it this way: "If (the democrats) allow him to do what he has in mind, he may be one of the best presidents in terms of bringing the economy back like it's supposed to be, that we've ever had."

Meanwhile, Breitbart News is gunning for Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, publishing every bad bit of news they can find on the GOP bill under the banner of "Ryancare."

At this rate, Trump might end up becoming the only president ever impeached, whilst entirely innocent. According to some.

metro SCIENCE

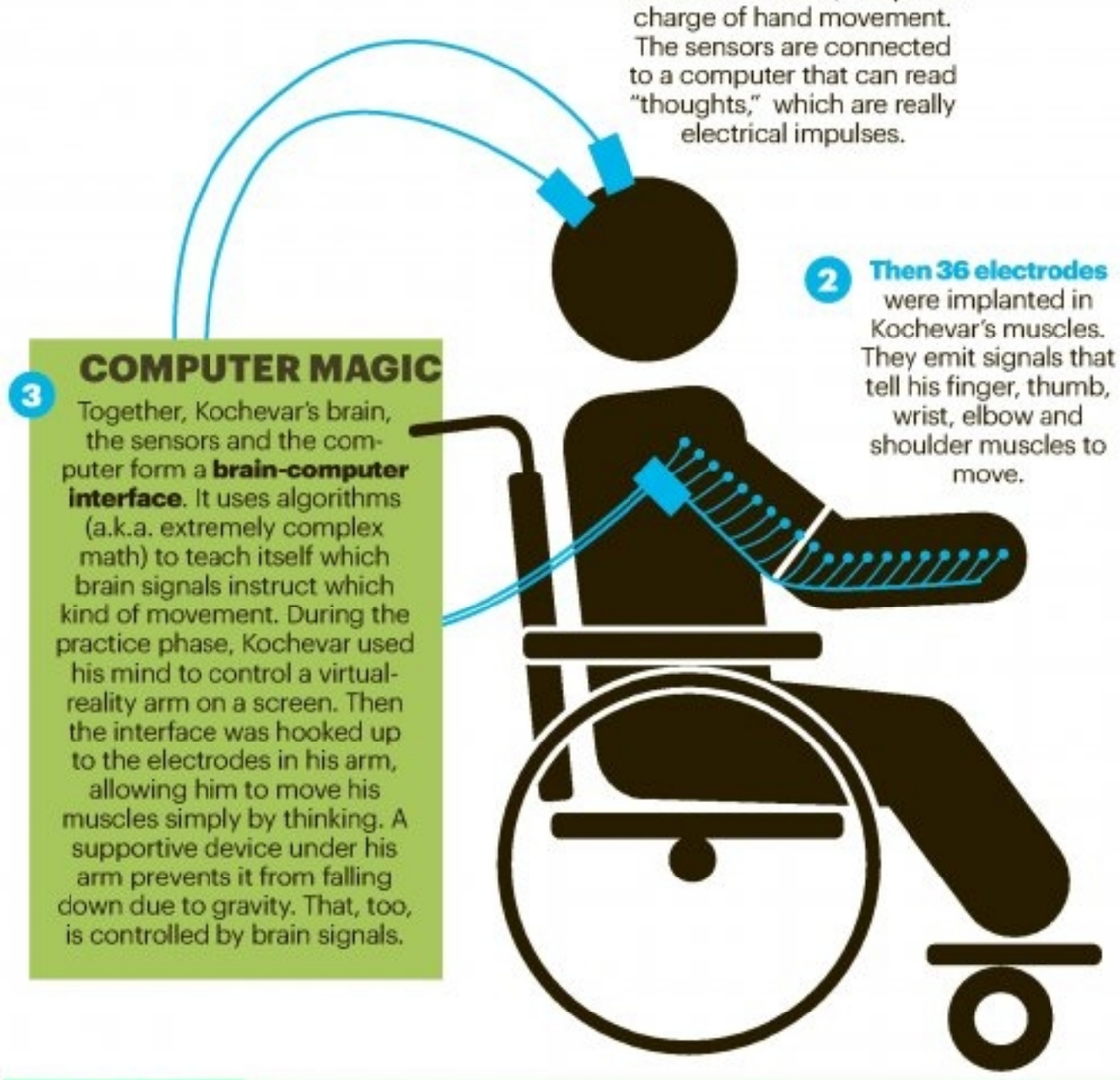
Your essential science news

Roaring back? Two credible sightings have scientists out looking for the Tasmanian tiger, believed extinct since 1936

DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

MOVING HIS HAND WITH HIS MIND

Eight years ago, Bill Kochevar's bicycle collided with the back of a mail truck and his life changed forever. He was paralyzed from the tops of his shoulders down. But now his hand can reach and grasp again. He can feed himself and sip a cup of coffee. And he does it exactly the same way able-bodied people do: Intuitively, just by thinking about it.



1 Kochevar had surgery to place **electrical sensors** in the **motor cortex** of his brain, the part in charge of hand movement. The sensors are connected to a computer that can read "thoughts," which are really electrical impulses.

2 **Then 36 electrodes** were implanted in Kochevar's muscles. They emit signals that tell his finger, thumb, wrist, elbow and shoulder muscles to move.

3 **COMPUTER MAGIC**

Together, Kochevar's brain, the sensors and the computer form a **brain-computer interface**. It uses algorithms (a.k.a. extremely complex math) to teach itself which brain signals instruct which kind of movement. During the practice phase, Kochevar used his mind to control a virtual-reality arm on a screen. Then the interface was hooked up to the electrodes in his arm, allowing him to move his muscles simply by thinking. A supportive device under his arm prevents it from falling down due to gravity. That, too, is controlled by brain signals.

REACHING FOR THE FUTURE

See videos of Bill's bionic hand at metronews.ca

This one-person study, published this week in the journal The Lancet, is the first time brain sensors and muscle electrodes have been used at the same time to restore reaching and grasping movements to a person with complete paralysis. The technology is not ready for use outside the lab, but that hasn't quelled Kochevar's enthusiasm. He said, **"I'm still wowed every time I do something. I ate a pretzel. I drank water."**

FINDINGS
Your week in science

PLAYING CHICKEN WITH JUPITER

It's name is BeeZed, and it's one gutsy little asteroid. A new University of Western Ontario study found the object is orbiting the sun in the opposite direction of other asteroids in its neighbourhood (picture a car driving the wrong way down the highway, with 6,000 cars coming in the other direction), and its path takes it very close to Jupiter. But it hasn't collided because it's thrown off, thankfully, by the giant planet's gravity.

SOUND SMART

DEFINITION

Epigenetics is the study of how genes are switched on and off. You can't change the genetic code you inherited from your parents. But your environment can change how genes are expressed.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE

Carlos's identical twin is a faster runner and has a higher IQ than him. They have the same genetic code, so those differences are probably due to **epigenetics**.

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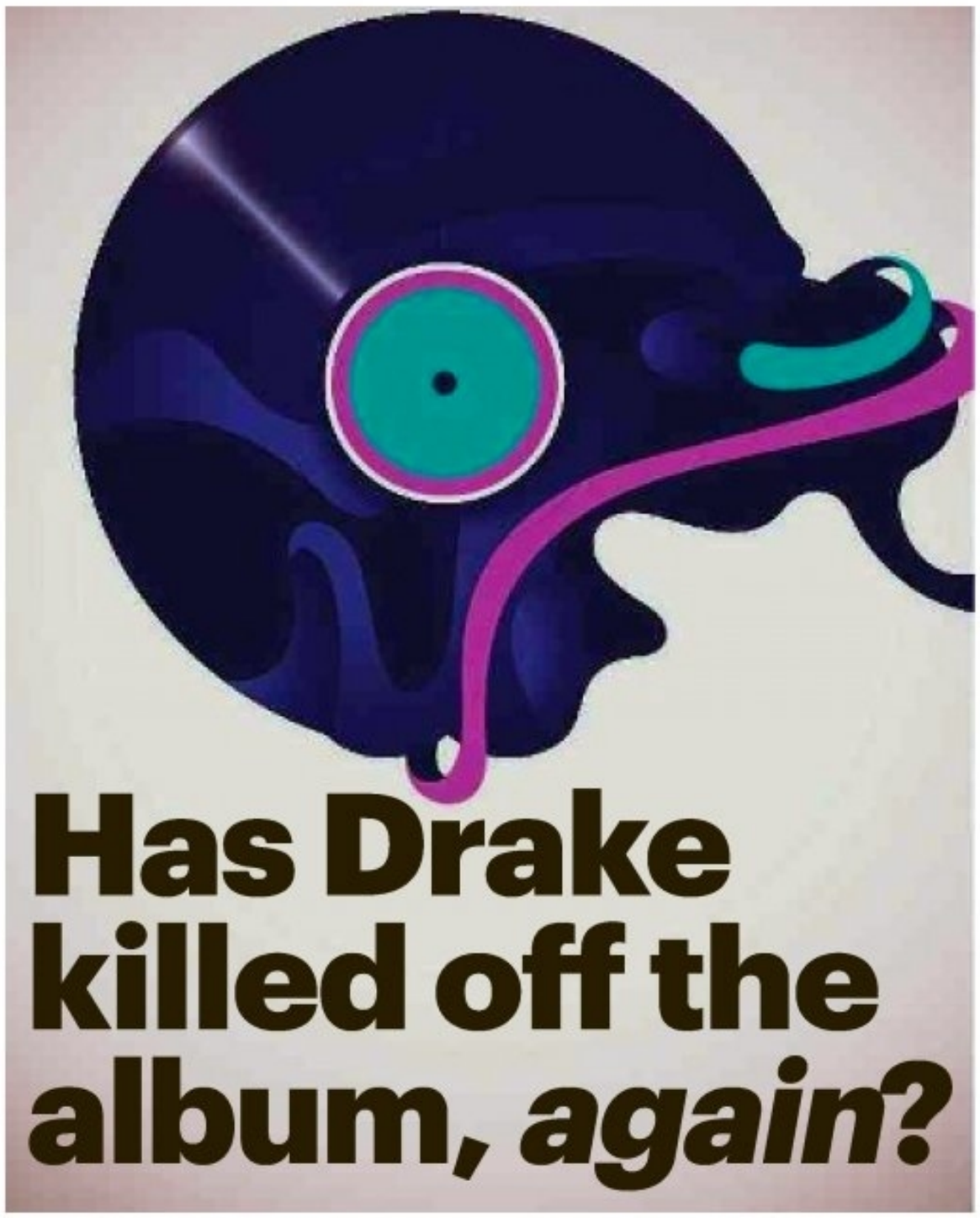
ANALYSIS

More Life is the soundtrack to an evolving music industry

Joe Callaghan
For Metro | Toronto



Has Drake killed off the album, *again*?

Drake's More Life playlist tops the album charts. GETTY IMAGES

The great and the good of Canadian music will gather this weekend in the nation's capital and vie for Album of the Year Junos — 25 of them, to be exact.

We shouldn't be surprised that with so many genres to trundle through, it takes two full days for the Juno Awards to run their annual course. The exhaustive list of contenders for various album honours is all the more impressive given the most perplexing question facing today's music industry: do we even know what an album is any more?

The 2017 Junos take place at a time when the country's Billboard Album Chart isn't even topped by an album. Drake's More Life was released March 18 and immediately went in at No. 1.

But Canada's hip hop king insists the 22-track collection is not an album. Nor is it another mixtape (to go with the four of those that he's already released). Instead More Life, fittingly for the streaming era, is a playlist. And it's a hell of a playlist.

More Life is an expansive, expressive journey that won quick critical acclaim and further cemented the Toronto rapper's status as a visionary talent. But through that vision, Drake continues to blur the lines.

"The idea of an album is something that's a relic, right?" says Mark Campbell, a professor in the school of media at Ryerson University and the founding director of Northside Hip Hop Archive, a digital anthology of Canadian hip hop and culture.

"It's something that's not relevant to young people today. But Drake continually pushes up against this idea of an album — his mixtapes, now his playlists. I think it's because he senses that his audience needs to be engaged in a different way. It's really only people like me who are 35 or 40-plus who are actually interested in hearing a cohesive album."

The death of the album has been declared on an all too regular basis since the dawn of digital music. Drake's own 2015 release If You're Reading This It's Too Late was a mixtape that was nominated for a Grammy. Kanye West's The Life of Pablo was "a living, breathing creative expression." Critics pointed to both as signalling the official end of the traditional album.

Last year's industry statistics sum up just how altered the music environment is in the streaming age. In Canada alone, more songs were streamed per day (97M) than were purchased over the entire year (75M.) Total album sales for 2016 (including physical copies, downloads and streams) reached 43.3M but that figure was dwarfed by the 22.3BN total audio streams, according to the in-depth report by BuzzAngle Music.

"The industry didn't really take the album as an artform seriously until the mid 1960s with the Beatles and the Stones and the Summer of Love," Eric Alper, veteran music publicist and analyst, told Metro. "But if you take a look at the superstar artists of today — the Weeknd, Drake, Justin Bieber, Alessia Cara, Shawn Mendes — it's all about the single. It's all about what song are we going to put out now.

It's an environment in which the album as once known by baby boomers and Gen X seems almost quaint. This summer in Canada U2 will kick off a worldwide stadium tour in honour of the 30th anniversary of their flagship album, The Joshua Tree.

But with More Life Drake may also be harking back in his own way — to the golden age of the hip hop mixtape — to stay ahead.

"In one way he's trying to gesture himself forward as someone who is relatable to kids that may have never physically purchased music in their life," says Campbell. "Kids of 17, 18 years old who would never have had the experience of buying a CD."

By calling it a playlist, Drake is branding it as something intimate or personal, Campbell adds.

"When Obama has a playlist on Spotify, it tells you everything we need to know about the era we're living in. People are so detached from each other digitally that we have to find new ways to reconnect. A playlist is a way to do it. Just like the mixtape was."

Alper argues that we shouldn't get so hung up on definitions but embrace the organic meaning of an album and celebrate this era of mass consumption.

"Music has never been more consumed, more talked about at any other time in its history. For $10 I can have access to every single song in recorded history — that's a brilliant thing. So (the album) is whatever the artist wants it to be and it's whatever the fan thinks that it is. We just want to make sure that artists continue to get paid and we have great music at our fingertips."

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Brilla: Juno's lack of women a bad sign

MUSIC INDUSTRY

Singer wants to see a better balance in the industry

Alysha Brilla wasn't surprised by the lack of female representation when this year's Juno Awards nominees were announced.

Years ago, the Waterloo, Ont.-based musician and producer decided to conduct an experiment. She carefully tabulated the gender diversity among Juno nominees and found there wasn't much at all, particularly in the technical categories, which were completely dominated by men.

After scrolling through this year's list of contenders, she concluded little has changed.

FOUR

Brilla points to data that shows only four women have won the producer award in the 45 years that Junos have been handed out; the engineer prize has never gone to a woman.

"I don't want to see women take over the industry. I want to see a balance," says Brilla, a two-time Juno nominee for best adult contemporary album.

All album categories only have one female nominee each. Both the engineer and producer of the year categories don't have a single female nominee.

When Brilla raised the issue with Junos brass in the past the response she got shocked her.

Representatives said better diversity at the Junos would only happen if more women became members of the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (CARAS).

"So I went out and did the work. I solicited every woman I knew who was technically qualified — who works in the industry. I asked artist friends, asked production friends and brought back a couple to them."

She waited until the next year to see if her efforts made a difference in the list of Juno nominees. They didn't, she says.

Sara Quin says the conversation motivated her to write letters to about 250 women in the industry. She plans to urge them to pay the CARAS membership fee, vote and "get more involved."

Musician Alysha Brilla. THE CANADIAN PRESS

It's an initiative that sounds familiar to other prominent musicians.

"I did exactly what Sara did — last year," says Amy Millan, a member of Broken Social Scene and Stars.

"I wrote (Sarah) Harmer, Sarah Slean and Jenn Grant and I wrote all these women and said, 'Are you a member of CARAS?' Most of them came back and they said, 'No, because what's the point?' "

Millan doesn't exactly blame the Junos, but she doesn't think it's helping matters either.

She believes the awards show is emblematic of a bigger problem plaguing Canada's music industry and that women aren't getting a fair shake.

Last year, Millan drew attention to a lack of women among the 2016 Juno nominees with the Twitter hashtag #JunosSoMale, a nod to the #OscarsSoWhite movement. It was quickly embraced by other musicians including electro-pop singer Grimes, who is nominated this year for three Junos including alternative album.

Her move also pushed the Junos to respond, with the organization's president saying the Junos are only mirroring the broader music industry.

"We simply reflect what comes to us, what's submitted," says Allan Reid, president of CARAS and the Junos.

Putting the blame on CARAS voters doesn't necessarily make sense either. Overall its membership is 42 per cent female, he notes. Instead, the problem is reflected more clearly in who submits their work to the Junos, Reid argues.

This year, only nine women put their names in for producer of the year among 118 contenders, he says. That's little changed from last year when women represented seven of 119 submissions, either solo or as part of a team.

Winners for the production category are voted on by active members of the Canadian music producer community who are also CARAS members.

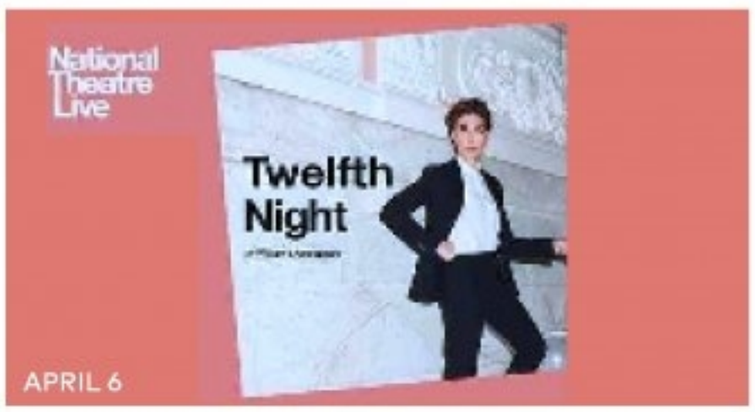
Brilla scoffs at the sentiment that women aren't interested in technical work. She believes responsibility lies with the music industry, which she says does little to encourage young women to pursue fields traditionally reserved for men.

"Women aren't making money behind the scenes," she says. "They're often the ones simply fronting the whole operation."

Hill Kourkoutis, a Toronto-based producer, takes a more optimistic outlook on the industry. While she used to frequently encounter people shocked to learn she worked behind a mixing console, she's finding that sentiment is slowly changing.

"There is that stigma to overcome, but that's been experienced in other industries," she says. "It's just a game of catch-up at this point." THE CANADIAN PRESS

NEW FROM CINEPLEX EVENTS



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CINEPLEX EVENTS

Scarlett Johansson plays a conflicted and butt-kicking cyborg in the new live-action take on manga/anime classic Ghost in the Shell. CONTRIBUTED

What's beneath the sexy surface

REVIEW

Casting saves live-action take on manga-anime classic

Anime exemplar Ghost in the Shell was a singular sensation in 1995, boldly anticipating the coming digital world even as it revisited old ideas of human minds inhabiting machine forms.

The new live-action take, starring Scarlett Johansson as a conflicted and butt-kicking cyborg, isn't quite so innovative. The film slavishly revisits not only the original inspiration but such other sci-fi landmarks as Blade Runner and Metropolis, creating an unsettling feeling not unlike the "uncanny valley" effect more common to photorealistic animation.

With Rupert Sanders at the helm, a situation akin to his earlier Snow White and the Huntsman ensues. The picture looks great, with seamless CGI and artful imagery, but the committee-written screenplay is of artificial rather than intelligent design.

Casting saves the movie, notwithstanding the thorny issue of cultural appropriation. Johansson plays a character, known variously as Mira and Major, who was originally drawn as Asian, right back to the 1989 manga that spawned what has become a multimedia franchise.

But talent trumps optics, as Tilda Swinton proved in Doctor Strange, and ScarJo has bona fides to spare: she honed her action chops in The Avengers, rocked alien animus in Under the Skin and clicked a computing mind in She.

Kudos, too, for an uncommonly good supporting cast. Juliette Binoche exudes empathy as not-so-mad scientist Dr. Ouelet, who refines the "cerebral salvage" technique that places the surviving brain of fatally injured Mira — victim of a terrorist attack, she's told — into the curvaceous "shell" of super-soldier Major. She'll be joining the terrorist-fighting Section 9 unit of her Asian metropolis, where humans, machines and holograms jostle.

Mira/Major's male foils are macho yet still interesting: Denmark's Pilou Asbaek makes a mean sidekick Batou, despite sporting artificial peepers that regretfully recall Little Orphan Annie; Michael Pitt's brings an Island of Misfit Toys melancholy to his Kuze character, whose subterranean presence and slowly revealed motivations bring needed emotion; and Japanese actor/director "Beat" Takeshi Kitano makes the most of very few words as the unbending Ministry of Defence official who controls Section 9.

All are in service, alas, of a story drawn from an Existentialism 101 course outline, wherein Mira/Major keeps trying to figure out how much of her is human, how much is machine and who's fooling who?

She keeps talking about how she's "the first of her kind," but that sounds even more derivative than it did in 1995. The conceit of a human mind inside of a mechanical body is almost as old as the movies, dating back to the Maria/Maschinenmensch dual character of Fritz Lang's Metropolis, released in 1927.

Mira/Major's government and corporate overlords, of course, would prefer she concentrate more on doing than thinking. When she stops brooding and gets clobbering, she does so in spectacular fashion, taking on creeps that include a brain-sucking mechanical geisha and a humungous robot spider.

She does it all while dressed in a nude bodysuit that makes her look for all the world like a giant unclothed Barbie doll, an unnecessary concession to series fidelity. Then as now, it's about nothing more than fanboy titillation.

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The noble, familiar fight of The Zookeeper's Wife

WARTIME DRAMA

Based on a true story, film explores anti-Nazi war efforts

Antonina Zabinski has an idyllic life.

At the Warsaw zoo that she and her husband Jan run, she nurses lion cubs in her home and a young camel dutifully accompanies her as she bicycles on her daily rounds tending to the animals.

All that changes dramatically with the German invasion of Poland and the advent of the Second World War.

Based on a true story, The Zookeeper's Wife chronicles the couple's efforts to rescue Jews from the infamous Warsaw ghetto and to further risk their own lives by housing them secretly in a basement hideout.

"That's why I love animals so much. You look in their eyes and see exactly what's in their hearts," notes Antonina (played by Jessica Chastain).

Certainly, Antonina begins to see the worst in the human beings around her, personified in the form of Lutz Heck (Daniel Bruhl), the chief zoologist for the Nazi regime.

She reluctantly forms an uneasy relationship — one that hints of romance — when Heck nearly uncovers the presence of others in the family home. Inevitably, it causes strains in her marriage.

Director Niki Caro does

That's why I love animals so much. You look in their eyes and see exactly what's in their hearts.

Antonina, played by Jessica Chastain

an able job of capturing the period detail and creating an atmosphere of tension and danger.

Chastain is an appealing protagonist, radiating an aura of determination in the face of uncertainty and adversity — and getting the Polish accent just right.

Johan Heldenbergh plays Jan with a quiet stoicism and strength and the relationship between the two is believable.

The weak link may be the performance of Bruhl as Heck, a character who's more oily than menacing, making him a less-than-persuasive villain.

The film details several key dates in the couple's years-long struggle but their significance won't always be clear to filmgoers without detailed historical knowledge.

History may in fact be the film's biggest challenge in drawing an audience. The period and the monstrous persecution and extermination of Europe's Jews have been covered extensively and memorably in so many other previous films.

While The Zookeeper's Wife is a reasonably accomplished work, it would be difficult to argue that it breaks new ground or offers a fresh perspective on those horrific times.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Zookeeper's Wife stars Jessica Chastain and Johan Heldenbergh and opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

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The *chill* of the chase

One of the most spectacular routes in the world, Icefields Parkway winds its way through two national parks. ISTOCK

ADVENTURE

A man's race to see all 46 parks in Canada's 150th year

John Honderich
For Metro Canada

Winter, as it turns out, is a spectacular time to visit Canada's national parks.

You just have to be prepared to navigate through periodic snow blasts, gale force winds, an avalanche warning here and there, and icy roads. But the rewards are nothing short of breathtaking, particularly in the mountains.

And heck, we are the North. Winter is us, part of our soul. Which is why I decided to visit 10 parks this winter as part of my yearlong odyssey to visit (hopefully) all 46 of Canada's national parks and reserves in honour of our country's 150th birthday.

My itinerary took me to four provinces — Alberta, British Columbia, Quebec and Ontario. My criteria were parks that offered either breathtaking vistas, superb cross-country skiing, intriguing animal experiments (bison breeding) or rugged new terrain.

I was never disappointed, except the one time I was not able to track down the bison herd in Elk Island National Park, just outside Edmonton. It turned out the herd had been shepherded to a remote corner of this postage stamp-sized park. So I had to make do with the stuffed baby bison in the visitors' centre.

The Rocky Mountains in winter have always been an amazing lure, partly for the skiing but mostly for the dramatic kaleidoscope of vistas. There is just something about mile after mile of towering snow-clad cedar forests encircling snow-capped mountains. This explains why I decided to start my odyssey in the Alberta Rockies on New Year's.

My first national park was Waterton Lakes, nestled among majestic peaks at the U.S. border, a few hours south of Calgary.

And it was en route to Waterton that I learned my first enduring lesson. Travelling to these parks takes you to unexpected sites, hidden gems and famous place names you simply hadn't anticipated.

The trip to Waterton, for example, along Alberta's stunning Highway 22, led me to Pincher Creek, which just happens to be the birthplace of a former assistant as well as Canada's Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin.

> **The Rocky Mountains in the winter have always been an amazing lure, partly for the skiing but mostly for the dramatic kaleidoscope of vistas.**
> John Honderich

A few kilometres farther along were signs to Crowsnest Pass, a route synonymous in Canadian history with freight rates and mountain slides. I just had to drive through. Later, I would drive through Kicking Horse Pass in Yoho Park and the highest, Rogers Pass, in Glacier National Park. A trifecta of Canadian railway history.

A different surprise came en route to Bruce Peninsula Park, at the northernmost tip of the Niagara escarpment in Ontario. There, in the Georgian Bay town of Wiarton, was a huge statue in honour of Wiarton Willy, Ontario's foremost predictive groundhog.

And driving back from La Mauricie Park along the shores of the mighty Saint-Maurice River in Quebec, I happened upon a museum to native son Jean Chrétien in Shawinigan. It contained all the gifts the former prime minister received while in office. It was closed for the season.

When it comes to majesty, there is still nothing that matches the mountain splendour of the Icefields Parkway in Jasper. On a frigid, minus-30-degree, cloudless day, the mountains seemed almost to explode in full glory.

Indeed that feeling would reoccur during several drives through the four contiguous national parks — Jasper, Banff, Yoho and Kootenay — that form the Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks World Heritage Site.

Throw in two nearby B.C. parks — Glacier National Park and Mount Revelstoke National Park — and you are left almost breathless by the winter splendour. So, all in all, a good start to my four-season odyssey.

And if I do manage to visit all 46 parks, Parks Canada says I might even get a lifetime pass!

This is one in a series of columns by John Honderich, chairman of the board of Torstar, as he attempts to visit all of Canada's national parks during the country's 150th birthday year.

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metro SPORTS

FIFA has proposed a six-team playoff for the final two spots in the World Cup's expanded 48-team tournament lineup, starting in 2026

FIGURE SKATING

Chan sits in third after short program

Canada's Patrick Chan made his one quadruple jump, a big one, at the Hartwell Arena in Helsinki.

The three-time world champion sat third after Thursday's men's short program at the world figure skating championships, planting himself in podium contention with the textbook skills and gorgeous execution that once made him the world's best.

Patrick Chan GETTY IMAGES

"I was trying to stick to my plan," Chan said.

"My whole goal this year was to try and challenge myself just to stay in my own world and know that I belong in this group of men, and not get too discouraged."

Defending champion Javier Fernandez of Spain scored 109.05 to win the short program, while Japan's Shoma Uno (104.86) was second. Each had a pair of clean quads.

Canada's Eric Radford and partner Meagan Duhamel held on to finish seventh in pairs at the world figure skating championships. The two-time world champs finished with 206.06 points for their shaky program.

Canada's Lubov Ilyushechkina and Dylan Moscovitch finished sixth. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Team Canada, Gushue one of worlds favourites

CURLING

Newfoundland skip, Gallant, Nichols, Walker all decorated

Brad Gushue and his teammates have plenty of experience wearing the Maple Leaf even though they're set to make their first appearance at the world men's curling championship.

Gushue and third Mark Nichols won Olympic gold at the Turin Games in 2006, five years after winning a world junior title together. Second Brett Gallant skipped Canada to world junior silver in 2009 and lead Geoff Walker played third on the national team skipped by Charley Thomas that won world junior gold in 2006.

The foursome from St. John's will be podium favourites when the 2017 world men's playdowns begin Saturday at the Northlands Coliseum. The Brier champions are joined by coach Jules Owchar, team leader Rick Lang and alternate Tom Sallows.

"Lots of experience within the room," Gushue said. "I don't think there's going to be anything that's really going to surprise us."

Earlier this month, Gushue edged Kevin Koe 7-6 to win the national men's title for the first time in 14 tries. He became the first Newfoundland skip to hoist the Brier Tankard since Jack MacDuff in 1976.

Brad Gushue, left, Mark Nichols, Brett Gallant and Geoff Walker receive the Brier Tankard after winning the men's national championship on March 12. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gushue's team came through despite the pressure and distractions that came with playing in their hometown.

They also played hurt as Gushue has been dealing with a hip/groin issue and Walker's sweeping abilities were hampered by a right shoulder injury.

"To win this one, it doesn't seem to make much sense," Gushue said. "I think it really showed that our team has a lot of grit and determination."

Lots of experience in the room. I don't think there's going to be anything that's really going to surprise us. Brad Gushue

The top-ranked team will look to build on that success in Edmonton. Sweden's Niklas Edin, Switzerland's Peter de Cruz and Scotland's David Murdoch are also expected to contend for podium spots.

Edin, who won Olympic bronze at the 2014 Sochi Games, won world titles in 2013 and 2015. De Cruz won a world junior title in 2010 while Murdoch took Olympic silver in 2014 and is a two-time world men's champion ('06, '09).

The 12-team field also includes American John Shuster, China's Rui Liu, Germany's Alexander Baumann, Italy's Joel Retornaz, Japan's Yusuke Morozumi, Jaap Van Dorp of the Netherlands, Norway's Steffan Walstad and Russia's Alexey Stukalskiy.

"I feel like our team is definitely one of the favourites going in," Gushue said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Poulin to captain Canada

Marie-Philip Poulin has been named Canada's captain for the 2017 women's world hockey championship.

Haley Irwin, Brianne Jenner and Natalie Spooner will rotate as alternate captains for the tournament that Canada kicks off Friday against the defending champion U.S. THE CANADIAN PRESS

China to host first NHL games during pre-season

The NHL will play its first games in China this fall.

The league announced Thursday that the Los Angeles Kings and Vancouver Canucks will meet in two pre-season matches, Sept. 21 in Shanghai and Sept. 23 in Beijing.

Two regular-season games in Sweden between the Colorado Avalanche and Ottawa Senators are already scheduled for next season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

FINAL FOUR SCHEDULE
Saturday at Glendale, Ariz.

- Gonzaga vs. South Carolina, 6:09 p.m.
- North Carolina vs. Oregon, 8:49 p.m.

*All times Eastern

Oregon player Dillon Brooks of Mississauga, Ont. GETTY IMAGES

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Decadent Skillet S'mores

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Who needs a campfire when you can whip up s'mores in your kitchen? Dare we say they best their summer competition?

Ready in 15 minutes
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 2 bags of dark chocolate chips
- 17 marshmallows, cut in half
- 1 box of graham crackers

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350.

2. In a 9-inch, ovenproof skillet, pour the chocolate chips in an even layer across the bottom. Arrange the marshmallow halves along the top, covering all the chips.

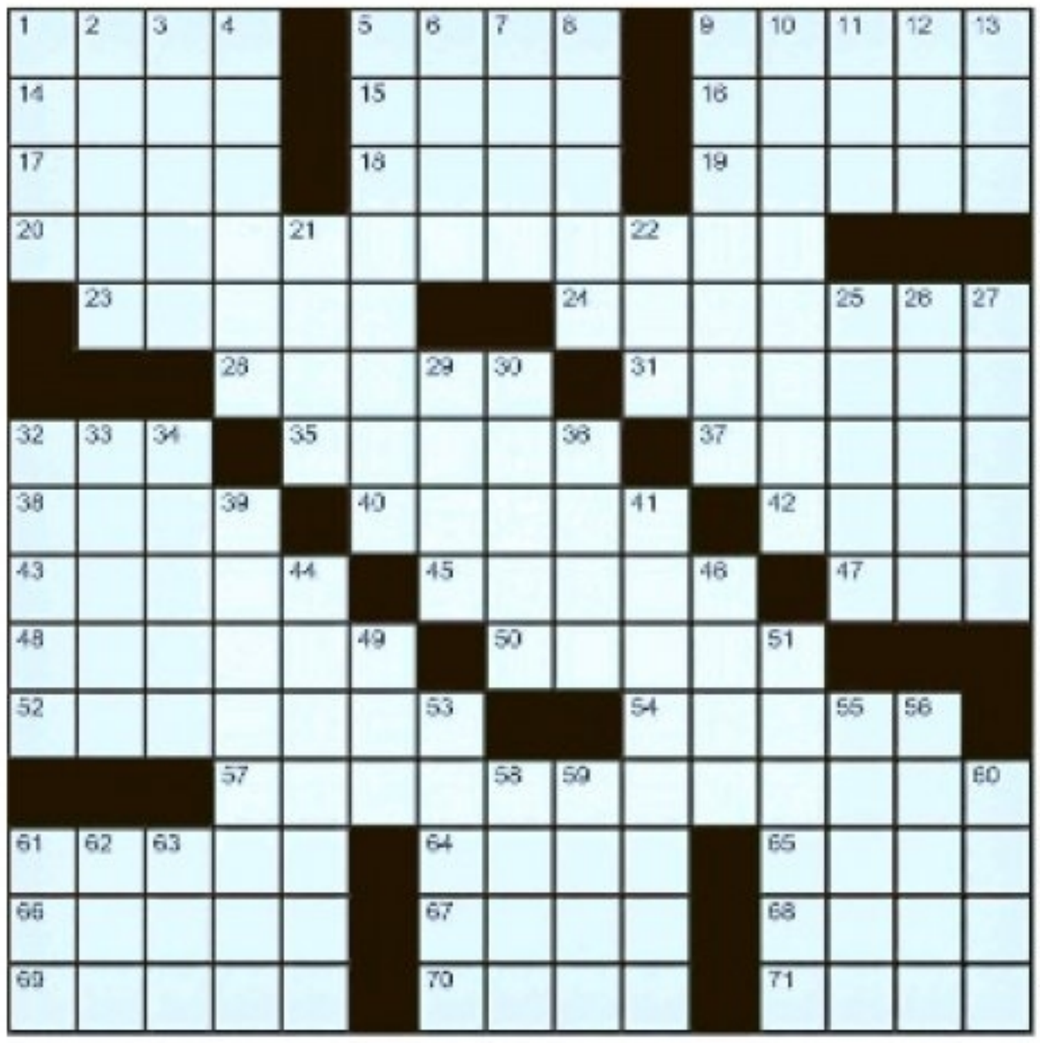
3. Bake in the oven for 10 minutes, or until marshmallows are lightly browned and chocolate is melted. Be careful not to over bake the chocolate.

4. Serve with stacks of graham crackers to dip and enjoy.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. "You __ Meant for Me" by Jewel
5. British raincoats, fun-style
9. Short romance
14. Figure skating jump
15. Aid and __
16. "American Pie" embankment
17. Aggravate
18. Former musical comedy on FOX
19. Up to now: 2 wds.
20. Performance centre in Montreal: 3 mots
23. Showbiz news show hosted by Mario Lopez
24. __ Party of Canada
28. River sediments
31. Switzerland city
32. Sugar amt.
35. Roman goddess of agriculture
37. Wallet item, __ card
38. Gets by, just barely
40. One with a pad and paper
42. Food Network creation
43. Sacred temple practices
45. Ornamental edging of loops
47. Anonymous surname
48. Angel
50. Taboos
52. "Cool It Now" by New __
54. "Boo! Boo!"
57. 'B' of CBC
61. Sleeping problem
64. Jam-in together
65. "Hop __ __!" (Get moving)
66. Pop into the freezer
67. Uncommon
68. Root that's edible
69. Places at a slant
70. __ and flows
71. Robin Colcord's portrayer on "Cheers", Roger __

DOWN
1. __ speed, as on "Star Trek"
2. Banish
3. Put up your feet and stay awhile
4. Chooses a candidate
5. Gulf of St. Lawrence archipelago, __ Islands
6. 'Obtain' suffix
7. So-so grades
8. Pilfer
9. __ truck
10. Diminished
11. "Poison __" by The Coasters
12. Maiden name word preceder
13. Become
21. Mr. Stoltz of movies
22. Tractor trailer
25. Raise one's paddle at the auction another time
26. Notice/warning, in Spain
27. Workshop machine
29. French for 'too much'
30. __ __ stone (Unchangeable)
32. Succinct
33. Went to Whistler
34. Agar-holding lab dish
36. Like dry Spanish wine
39. Car safety device
41. Glace Bay, Nova Scotia born stand-up comedian: 2 wds.
44. Coils
46. Pump parts
49. Which person, wondered the owl?
51. Jet-__ (World traveller)
53. Mother-of-pearl
55. __ __ Janeiro
56. Like a nasty comment
58. Dullsville
59. Atkins = Low-__ diet
60. Ronny & The Daytonas cars
61. Take steps
62. __ Beta Kappa
63. Naught

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
You're full of big ideas today because you're in such a positive frame of mind. Enjoy discussions with siblings, neighbors and relatives. (They will be impressed.)

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Business and commerce are favoured today, because you are in a moneymaking frame of mind. Furthermore, you're not afraid to entertain ambitious ideas. Good stuff!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Today the Moon is in your sign and you feel content and happy. It's a good day for business. It's also a good day to enjoy family activities at home.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Today you will prefer to work behind the scenes or perhaps alone. It's also a good day to research and look for answers to old problems.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Relationships with friends and group members will be upbeat and positive today. Make an effort to be sociable and friendly, because you are the one who will get a pleasant payoff.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You make a great impression on bosses and VIPs today. In fact, work-related travel or talking to people from other cultures is likely for some of you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Do something different today. Shake up your routine. You have an urge for adventure and you also want to learn something new. Go someplace you have never been before

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a good day to discuss shared property and issues related to insurance, wills, inheritances and anything that you own jointly with others. Things will likely go in your favor.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You have to go more than halfway when dealing with others today, because the Moon is opposite your sign. This simply requires some tolerance, patience and co-operation.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Do something to get better organized today. Make your workstation or where you live a bit neater. Tidy things up.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a playful, fun-loving day. It's also a good date day. Plan to have fun activities with children, friends and loved ones. Sporting events particularly will appeal.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You might want to cocoon at home today and just relax. Today pleasure appeals more than work — that's for sure. Take some time off just for yourself, because you deserve it.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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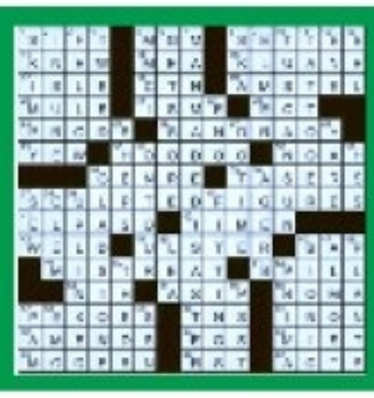

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